



U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES
COMMAND (AIRBORNE)
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 / (910) 432-6005 / <http://www.soc.mil>

SGT. 1ST CLASS LANCE W. COKER
Died on Dec. 15, 2004

Sgt. 1st Class Lance W. Coker was a Special Forces weapons Sergeant assigned to 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, N.C.

He was killed Dec. 15, 2004, when he lost control of the vehicle he was driving and collided with a tree in Raeford, N.C.

A native of Tallassee, Ala., Coker enlisted in the Army as an infantryman in March 1994. After completing One Station Unit Training and the Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Ga., he was assigned to the 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg. Coker went on to complete Special Forces training and was assigned to 3rd SFG in 2001. At the time of his death, he had recently returned from a May 2004 deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Military Free Fall Badge, the Special Forces Tab and the Ranger Tab.

Coker is survived by his wife, Julie, and their two children. His parents, Harry and Gail Coker of Tallassee, Ala., also survive him.

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